

REMARKS

Claims 54-74 are pending in the application. Claims 1-53 were previously cancelled. Claims 54, 55, and 57-74 have been cancelled by this amendment. New claims 75-83 have been added to the application. Therefore, claims 56 and 75-83 are at issue.

Claim 56 has been amended to incorporate the features of originally filed and now-cancelled claim 58. New independent claims 75-83 each incorporate the features of originally filed claim 56 and additionally incorporate the features of an originally filed and now-cancelled claim 59 through 67, respectively. Accordingly, no new matter has been added to the new claims.

Claims 54, 56, 57 and 73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as nonenabling. Claims 54, 55, 56, 57, and 68-74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In view of this amendment, which cancels claims 54-57 and 68-74, it is submitted that these rejections are now moot. These claims have been cancelled without prejudice to facilitate prosecution, and not for reasons of patentability. Applicants retain the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a continuing application.

Claims 54-74 also stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over coowned U.S. Patent Nos. 6,258,833 and 6,716,871. In view of the timely filed terminal disclaimer submitted concurrently with this amendment, it is submitted that this rejection has been overcome, and should be withdrawn.

In addition, it should be noted that the sole rejection of claims 58-67 was the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. This rejection has been overcome, thus, it is submitted that amended claim 56 (which incorporates the features of claim 58) and new independent claims 75-83 (which recite the subject matter of claims 59-67 in independent form) are allowable.

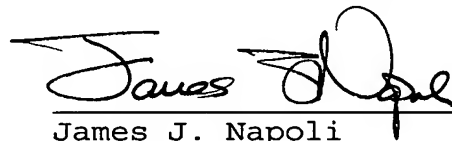
It is submitted that the claims are in proper form and scope for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, the examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 6, 2005